Grant for the development of Civil Aviation in Maharashtra

2126. SHRIMATI CHANDRIKA ABHINANDAN JAIN: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) the amount granted to the Govern ment of Maharashtra for the development of Civil Aviation during the Eighth Five Year Plan till-date, scheme-wise; and

(b) the details of development works under taken in this field for the State during the plan?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) No amount is granted by the Union Government to the State Government of Maharashtra for development of civil aviation in the State.

(b) The National Airports Authority and the International Airports Authority of India have taken up upgradation of airports in Aurangabad, Nagpur, Pune and Bombay.

Posts vacant in Air India

2127. SHRI GHUFRAN AZAM: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM bcpleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a good number of vacancies in Group 'D' posts (Loader) in the reserved categories of S.T. and OBC have been lying vacant in Air India in its Delhi office and candidates sponsored by the Employment Exchanges have been waiting in queue for their interview/selection since a very long period;

(b) whether it is also a fact that some M.Ps have also written to the concerned Director (HRD) to restore the genuine claims of the long awaited candidates and no fruitful action has been taken as yet;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(d) by when all the selection formalities will be completed?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) to (d) At present 10 posts of Loaders' are vacant, of which 3 are reserved for ST candidates and 7 for OBC candidates. Names were received from Employment Exchange to fill these vacancies and some letters were also received from Hon'ble MPs in this regard. Air India has not filled these posts in view of the award of the Central Government Industrial Tribunal for absorption of casual labourers who have been working with Air India for long periods. There is also a ban on recruitment from outside till the absorption of Vayudoot employees is completed. It is not possible to indicate any definite time frame for the recruitment of loaders at this stage.

Carrying of passengers by Private Airlines vis-a-vis AI and IA

2128. SHRI K.R. MALKANI: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that in the past one year, private airlines carried more pas sengers than IA and AI from Bombay as published in The Pioneer, dated 1st Febru ary, 1995;

(b) if so, Government's reaction thereto; and

(c) whether Government will advise all official and semi-official agencies to patronise only IA and AI?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) No, Sir.

(b) The news item refers to traffic statistics relating to carriage of passengers only during the month of December, 1994 from Bombay airport.

(c) Such instructions already exist.

Boost to tourism in Sikkim

2129. SHRI KRISHAN LAL SHARMA: Will the Minister of CTVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Central Government have permitted the Government of Sikkim to tie-up with a foreign firm to boost tourism in that state;

(b) whether it is also a fact that other states of the country have tied-up with foreign firms likewise;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the progress, if any, made in this matter?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) to (d) The State Government of Sikkim have intimated that it had accorded, "principle", approval to a tie-up with a Swiss company for setting up a resort and air linking Bagdogra to Gangtok. MOU in this regard has been signed, beyond which no further action has been taken.

The Government of Karnataka have signed the following three Memoranda of Understanding:

(i) MOU with Chesterfield International Private Ltd. Singapore for the establishment of International Convention Centre Complex.

(ii) MOU with REDEVCO PTE. LTD Singapore for the establishment of Limousine and Coach Service Company.

(iii) MOU with Chestorfield International Private Limited, Singapore for building up of five Four Star Hotels in Bangalore, Mysore, Hasan, Shimoga and Hampi.

The Department of Toursim has not received information regarding any tie-up from any other State Government.

गुजरात और महाराष्ट्र में नयी हवाई पट्टियों का निर्माण

2130. श्रीमती चन्द्रिका अभिनन्दन जैन:

क्या नागर विमानन और पर्यटन मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या सरकार गुजरात और महाराष्ट्र में और अधिक पर्यटकों को आकर्षित करने हेतु निकट भविष्य में नई हवाई पट्टियों का निर्माण करने और वर्तमान में कार्यरत विमान क्षेत्रों में अधिक सुविधाएं उपलब्ध कराने का विचार रखती है;

(ख) यदि हां, तो तत्संबंधी ब्यौरा क्या है;

(ग) क्या सरकार इन राज्यों के विद्यमान विमानपत्तनों का दर्जा बढ़ाने पर विचार कर रही है;

(घ) यदि हां, तो उसका ब्यौरा क्या है; और

(ङ) यदि नहीं, तो इसके क्या कारण हैं?

नागर विमानन और पर्यटन मंत्री (श्री गुलाम नबी आजाद): (क) से (ङ) राष्ट्रीय विमानपत्तन प्राधिकरण और भारत अंतरराष्ट्रीय विमान पत्तन प्राधिकरण की फिलहाल गुजरात और महाराष्ट्र में नए हवाई अड्डे बनाने की कोई योजना नहीं है। तथापि, राष्ट्रीय विमानपत्तन प्राधिकरण और भारत अंतरष्ट्रीय विमानपत्तन प्राधिकरण ने महाराष्ट्र में औरंगाबाद, नागपुर, पुणे और बम्बई स्थित तथा गुजरात में बड़ोदरा, अहमदाबाद, भावनगर, भुज, जामनगर, और राजकोट स्थित हवाई अड्डों के उन्नयन का काम शुरू किया है।

Shortage of Instructors in Indian Airlines

2131. SHRI SANJAY DALMIA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Indian Airlines is facing shortage of instructors to train its pilots;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the number of instructors required and those in position;

(d) whether the shortage of instructors has adversely affected the Indian Airlines services; and

(e) if so, the steps taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) Yes. Sir.

(b) The shortage has occurred as a large number of Instructors and potential Instructors have resignedl from Indian Airlines.

(c) As against a requirement of 60 Instructors/Examiners, Indian Airlines has 19.

(d) Yes, Sir.

(e) Indian Airlines has sought approval of the Director General of Civil Aviation in respect of eligible pilots to convert them as Instructors.